

I certainly appreciate and understand where Mr Lloyd is coming from. However, I would like to respectfully respond to his comments.

Mr Lloyd mentions disturbance throughout the summer at night, however, last season, in accordance with our planning conditions, we closed at 8pm every night and shall remain.

I am, in fact, trying to create an upmarket, tapas café/restaurant to compliment the success of my alfresco garden. I have not applied to open a "late night drinking establishment" and will also not be serving draught beer as a conscious attempt to avoid pub culture.

In addition, and as part of recent correspondence from the environmental protection officer (EPO), they state that:

"In principle I have no objections to the building being licensed and used as a restaurant with a premises license, allowing opening until 23.30, Wyle Cop is a commercial area and there are a number of restaurants and bars in the vicinity"

Should the variation be approved, customers will use the facilities of an outdoor toilet and smoking area. As discussed with Rob Bowland (EPO), I have agreed to have the following conditions put in place:

- The external areas to the rear of the building (courtyard and terrace) to be cleared of patrons by 17:00 Monday – Tuesday, and 20:00 Wednesday to Sunday.
- A gate to be fitted at the bottom of the metal staircase that leads to the Terrace, and the gate closed and locked at the above times to prevent unauthorised access.
- No drinks to be taken into, or consumed in the Courtyard or Terrace after 17:00 Monday to Tuesday, and after 20:00 Wednesday to Sunday.
- The rear door to the building to be closed after 20:00 until the end of trading except for access and egress.

Mr Lloyd: "I also object to the license on the basis of extending the opening days outside to all year. As it currently stands we are disturbed by the venue for the whole summer and we only get the early spring and late autumn to have peaceful enjoyment of our gardens. Any further opening days would mean further imposition on the neighbors."

The opening hours within the Variation apply to the inside of 19 Wyle Cop, and not the gardens.

Our planning already allows for us to be open 12 months of the year and would like our licensing to reflect this. Once again we are not a pub, we will be a restaurant.

Mr Lloyd himself states, "restaurants cause less crime and disorder than pubs".

Suggested Conditions

1. **Restriction to music outside:** Currently, we are already restricted by volume levels of music outside. We have had no complaints following a site visit where it was agreed that music could be played creating an atmospheric ambience as long as it is barely audible. This has been proved.
2. **Reduce opening hours back to the original hours agreed in the summer:** This is irrelevant to our application, we are not applying to extend our outside hours.
3. **Food has to be served inside** - It will be.
4. **Restrict opening months to only the summer months to give neighbors some peace in the spring and autumn:** Again it seems like Mr Lloyd is referring to the outdoor space.